

# SPRAGUE ELECTRIC

## Log

BY SPRAGUE EMPLOYEES and FOR SPRAGUE EMPLOYEES

Volume X

SPRAGUE ELECTRIC LOG, JANUARY 10, 1948

Number 10

## LOOKING BACK AT 1947 . . . AHEAD TO 1948

### No Days Absent

In looking back over 1947, George Senecal found that eleven of his men in the Formation Department had not been absent from work during the year . . . and that's some record. There are 37 men now employed in the Formation Department, which means that one third of the Department reported for work *every day in 1947*. When one takes into consideration the fact that many of the men come long distances to work; that traveling in winter is difficult with roads almost impassable because of snow; that some of the men may have been ill, but reported for work anyway, this record is especially commendable.

The men who had this perfect attendance record for 1947 were Leonard Bourrie, Arthur Rennell, Michael Costal, Arcade Gibeau, Russell Sacco, Arthur Hewitt, Edward Ducharme, John Carleton, Albert Zepka, Joseph Vivari and Frank Lineberry. Up to mid summer, these men have averaged 48 hours per week over the year. Without becoming statistical, this would mean each man worked approximately 2400 hours during the year and multiplied by eleven . . . you figure it out! Anyway, this is a record to be proud of . . . and George says (Continued on Page 3)

What! This is No Weather for Horseshoe Pitching!



John Murray and Bill Brown don't mind the weather when it comes to tossing those horseshoes.

### Machine Shop Gang Toss Those Shoes Around

The boys of the Beaver Street Machine Shop made a boast several months ago, that they would pitch horseshoes, despite snow, sleet, ice, rain, or what have you,—until the first of the year. And just to prove it,

we had our staff photographer, Al Horsfall, take a picture of the boys indulging in their favorite pastime, with plenty of snow on the ground. Incidentally, the boys made good their boast!

## LIVE IN ALASKA



Can you identify the men at the right with those at the left? "Before and after" poses of Charles E. Wright and Arthur Theberge, now of Fanshaw, Alaska.

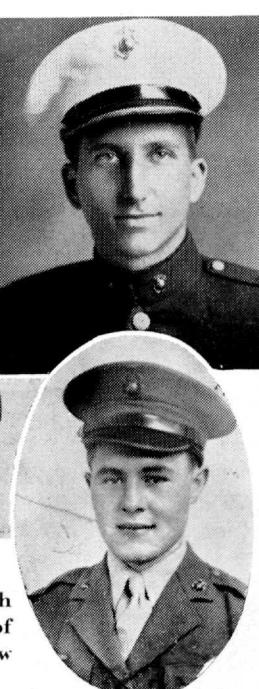
"Chuck" E. Wright and "Art" Theberge, two former Sprague employees, are now living in Alaska — and like it! In fact, they like it so well, they expect to stay for the next twelve years, as they have leased an island from the Government for that length of time.

To most of us, that seems an impossibly long time, . . . our conception of Alaska is that of a forlorn waste of ice, stretching endlessly into the horizon. But the boys inform us, that their particular island is extremely mild

in temperature; the terrain is rocky, similar to that of Maine and covered with heavy timber of fir; and is *not* covered, as we think, with snow the year round! The average mean temperature is 65°.

Ever since the boys were mustered out of service, their dream has been adventure in Alaska — and in June of '46 they left to fulfill that desire. Moreover, they are combining business with pleasure (the envy of most of us). Both boys love hunting and fishing — and

(Continued on page 2)



### Watch Your Driving During Dark Hours

Drivers leaving for their homes after work should be especially careful these January days of slippery roads and poor visibility. During January, the home-ward-bound driver makes that journey in almost total darkness because of shortened hours of daylight.

The National Safety Council has some figures to show about such driving. They say that during the early hours of darkness, 31 percent of pedestrian deaths occur during the winter months as compared with 22 per cent for the summer months.

### January Takes Heavy Toll

Highest death rates were reached in December and January when there are more hours of darkness. Low months are June and July when daylight hours are at a maximum. The Council reports that 58 per cent of the pedestrians killed between the hours of 5 and 7 P.M. met death during November, December and January when those hours are dark . . . and the total motor vehicle accidents have cost the nation over \$2,200,000,000 for the past 12-month period!

### Movies in Lighted Rooms

Add to new developments—movies shown in a fully lighted room. The projector operates as a conventional machine, but throws a cone of "black" light on a fluorescent screen.

### \* Cooperation and Efficiency Needed To Meet Present Day Competition

### 1947 - A Year of Development and Progress for the Company

By President R. C. Sprague

During the year 1947, there were many important happenings here at Sprague's which had an immediate effect on many of us and will probably have an effect on all of us in the months to come.

So that we may take stock of what happened during the past year, let us take a look at some of them: Our production activity during the first of the year was at a peak for peacetime operation. This peak was maintained until Spring when the lack of orders received from customers required a sharp reduction in production activity. This "lack of orders" from customers was the result of their having more of our products on hand than required to take care of their own reduced manufacturing operations.

It was not until Fall that our customers again started to order in more normal quantities. From that point on our activities have increased to a level about 15% to 20% less than the peak reached during the early months of the year.

### Development of Molded Tubular Capacitor

The year 1947 witnessed the birth of our Molded Tubular Capacitors. Our Engineering and Research Departments had for some time been working on this development as there was an urgent need for an improved small paper capacitor. We here at Sprague's can all take pride in the fact that we are pioneers in the research, development and ultimate production of this remarkable unit which has been well received by the entire electronics field. Its ultimate position in this field, however, will depend on our ability to reduce manufacturing costs to the point where these costs approach the cost of standard paper tubulars in general use.

When a new product is created, production and engineering problems develop which have to be contended with, and it takes the cooperation of all of us who are working, either directly or indirectly, on the project before major and minor difficulties are overcome.

### Maintains Share of Business

Our PAA Tubular Capacitor business is not quite as active as it was in the beginning of 1947, but has maintained its proportionate share of the business, and a number of former workers in the PAA Department have been transferred to the Molded Tubular operation, eliminating the necessity of many lay-offs.

In the Beaver Street plant, our production of Electrolytic Capacitors at the end of the year is considerably off from the first few months of 1947. After a drop in customer demand during the summer period, production activity increased and then leveled off, and is maintaining a steady volume at the end of the year.

A long needed centralization of our Research and Engineering Departments was accomplished by a consolidation in Building No. 2 at Marshall Street.

(Continued on page 2)

### SPRAGUE MEN ELECTED TO HIGH POSITIONS ON CITY COUNCIL

Robert S. Teeple, Factory Manager at the Beaver and Marshall Plants, has been elected to the high office of president of the City Council for the ensuing year. Fred B. Windover of Sales Department, retiring president of the Council is now serving on the Streets and Highways committee and is chairman of the Capital Outlay committee; and Leo E. Lemoine, of Dry Tubular

Finish Department, is chairman for the Claims and Salaries committee.

Knowing these men intimately, as Sprague Electric members do, the employees are happy to have such capable men in office, and know that it is through their intelligent approach to problems of city government, that a just and businesslike administration of city affairs will be effected.

# SPRAGUE ELECTRIC

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BY SPRAGUE EMPLOYEES and FOR SPRAGUE EMPLOYEES

Published by the SPRAGUE ELECTRIC CO., North Adams, Mass.

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*"Every Sprague Worker an Assistant Reporter."*

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January 10, 1948

No. 10

## LOOKING AHEAD FOR 1948

(Continued from page 1)

Net profits for the year 1947 will not be as good as they were for the year 1946. The reduction in net profit is due to the fact that, while gross sales were only slightly less than last year, wage increases granted, together with increased material costs, resulted in higher basic costs which were not entirely offset by a greater efficiency of operation.

## Competition is Keen

Of importance to all of us is the fact that competition in our industry is increasing. Already several small manufacturers have felt the pinch and have had to cease operations. Keen competition in our business will, without question, be felt more and more during 1948. It is, therefore, wise at this time to stress the importance of low-cost operation. To accomplish this result it will be most important to keep down all unnecessary overhead and other expenditures and to maintain an ever increasing efficiency in the operation of our plants. Each individual employee can do his or her part in this important phase of meeting competition.

To sum up, the year 1947 has been a year of many changes and improvements, and although not as profitable a year as 1946, it has been a year in which we have continued to grow and expand our activities.

During 1948, we expect a further expansion in our Molded Tubular Department, and that we shall continue to receive our share of business in PAA Paper Tubulars, Dry Electrolytic Capacitors and other products which we manufacture.

## New Projects for 1948

We have several new projects which have been in the development stage during 1947. A principal one being the new Mercury Battery which will go into production during 1948. It is hoped that this continuing diversification and a further increase in our efficiency, will stabilize employment during the year. A successful 1948 is a challenge to all of us, and with our sights set high and all of us working as a team, it is hoped that we can make 1948 a successful year for all of us.

With this thought in mind, we close out the old year and ring in the new, with a hearty wish to all for a Happy New Year.

## MARCH OF DIMES . . . . .

This month, all persons are asked to contribute to the "March of Dimes" fund, to help in the great fight against infantile paralysis. Of those funds given, 50 per cent remain in the area contributing them for use in their local chapters to provide medical care and treatment for the victims of this disease. The other 50 per cent goes to national headquarters for use in research, education and epidemic aid programs . . . Research will ultimately conquer infantile paralysis . . . and you, as a contributor to the "March of Dimes" play a major part in this total warfare against an insidious disease!

## SPORTS . . .

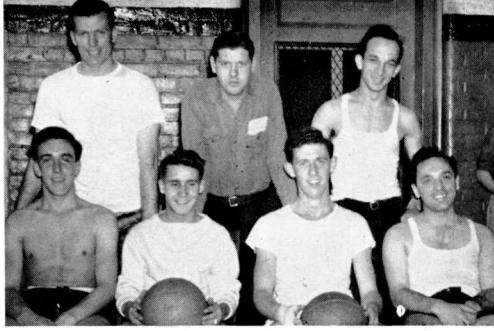
Kenny Russell

## All Records Broken in Men's Bowling . . .

December 18

All alley records for the Men's Bowling League were smashed on December 18, the last meeting of 1947. The Lunchroom set a new team total record with a total pin fall of 1524. The Can Shop Pressmen tied the Lunchroom with a high single team total of 514. L. Segalla broke the High Individual Single string with a sensational 146, with five consecutive marks, Segalla had a total of 98 in the first five boxes—which is fair rolling in anybody's league! J. Lipa, who has been bowling steadily in the 100's all year, broke his own three string record of 343 by flattening the maples with a grand total of 362. "Pinky" Sherman of the Can Shop Pressmen has been making rapid strikes in bowling averages, working his way up from lower brackets in the first ten until he now ranks third and is hard-pressing Tony Woloski for second place.

The Men's League resumed bowling January 8, 1948, while the Girls' League with their bowling night falling on a Monday, bowled right through the recent holidays.



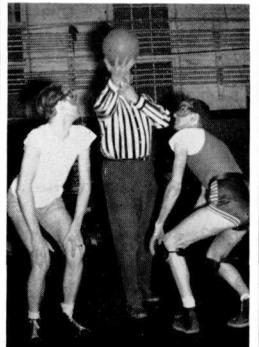
The Laboratory and Sample team put up some mighty fine basketball. Here are D. Denault, D. Fortini and H. Puppolo. Lower row: G. Cobelli, T. Sacco, W. Houghton and D. Puppolo.

## Basketball

Inter-Plant Basketball League was interrupted by the holidays, but now resumes playing, with much keen action anticipated.

Five, the Renaissance. After a listless first half, the colored Five stepped up the pace, making the locals play the best ball of the year to stay within striking distance. "Hank" Brown, a Spragueite, was the outstanding local lad who enjoyed a fine night with 10 points.

The Northern Berkshire High School Basketball League will pry off the lid by the time this issue rolls off the press. All teams have played pre-season-scheduled games with teams outside the League. This is something new, and I believe is a fine venture. It gives a practical picture of the strength of the various Leagues and helps the so-called statisticians to rate the various Leagues in Western Massachusetts — and all teams will be better equipped to handle themselves in their own League.



Toss up for first inter-plant basketball game when Machine Shop played PAA. Tank Wilson tosses the ball for John Murray and John MacDonald to put in play.

## Orchids

At this time, we want to congratulate a former Sprague worker and co-writer, Bernard "Bucky" Bullet on taking over the reins as head coach for the local St. Joseph High. He succeeds Danny Hawthorne who has been a popular coach for the past 18 years and brought on the court many a fine team to do battle with all of the larger schools in the League. "Bucky" assisted Dan in the past and is well qualified for the job. We know, that even with the small amount of material that he will have at his disposal — you can bet your bottom dollar his Club will be a typical, stout-hearted, scrappy St. Joseph Five . . . Good luck, Coach!

We are now in the midst of the skiing season with weather conditions just about ideal. The holidays attracted huge crowds to the various slopes. With thousands on the boards, there were only two accidents of serious nature . . . minor sprains and bruises always accompany the die-hard ski enthusiast.

The North Adams Chamber of Commerce has given sports a real boost in this area with the erection of a Sports bulletin board located opposite the Hunter Machine Company, serving as a guide to local sports fans as well as out-of-towners.

## SENSIBLE OBSERVANCE OF HOLIDAYS

The Company is glad to comment on the fine manner with which all employees conducted themselves and cooperated to make the days before Christmas and New Years, *safe days* as well as pleasant ones for everybody. They were splendid examples of cooperation. It is hoped that when we realize that this Christmas and New Year holidays turned out to be those with pleasant memories, as a result of sensible observances, that in the years to come, our conduct will continue to be in keeping with the high standard of the recent holiday season.

## LIVE IN ALASKA

(Continued from page 1)

on their island that is the way they make their livelihood. They fish almost the year 'round for king salmon, which after caught, are shipped to the big canning companies. And when they need a "little piece of change" as Art terms it, they go out trapping or hunting. They manage to catch quite a number of mink, marten, otter and beaver — and as every woman knows who possesses a fur coat of such pelts — that's worth quite a piece of change! Anyway, it sounds like a hunter's paradise.

The boys insist that they saw more snow while visiting in North Adams than they had up at their island. This is understandable when we consider that their particular island is situated south of Juneau and that the climate is tempered by the Japanese current . . . And talking of their neighbors (the nearest ones are 2½ miles away) the boys say there are none quite like those Alaskan neighbors. They are always friendly, always sincere, good-hearted, and willing to lend a helping hand in time of trouble. The nearest town is that of Petersburg, some 35 miles away . . . "And don't forget," said Art Theberge, "we are a modern community with running water, electricity, with weekly dances and movies for those that like them. Don't think we're desolate and way out in the sticks — we're not!" . . . and because of their sales talk, they have mustered another recruit who expects to return with them to Alaska.

Both boys saw service with the Marines. Art, before enlisting, was in the K.V.A. Department, and Chuck in Maintenance, later, in Production and Material Control . . . Good luck, boys, on your Alaskan adventure!

## BOWLING STANDINGS

## GIRLS' LEAGUE

Team	Won	Lost
Independents . . . . .	22	11
Beaverettes . . . . .	19	14
W. E. Rollers . . . . .	13	20
Industrial Oils . . . . .	13	20
High Team Triple—Beaverettes	1371	
High Team Single—Beaverettes	492	
High Ind. Single—C. Baliakos	122	
High Ind. Triple—R. Adams	307	

## Five Top Bowlers (As of Dec. 29)

Name	Team	Ave.	Sigs.
G. Bressett, W. E. Rollers	92.8	9	
C. Baliakos, Beaverettes	88.8	23	
M. Estes, Independents	88.1	33	
N. Barschdorff, Ind. Oils	86.6	33	

## MEN'S LEAGUE

(as of Dec. 18)

Team	Won	Lost	Pct.
I.C.W. No. 2 . . . . .	28	8	.777
Lunch Room . . . . .	28	8	.777
Can Shop Pressmen . . . . .	22	14	.611
Machine Shop . . . . .	17	19	.472
Centrifuge . . . . .	16	20	.444
Can Shop . . . . .	12	24	.333
F. P. Dry's . . . . .	11	25	.305
Machine Shop App. . . . .	10	26	.277
High Team Total—Lunch Room	1524		
High Team Single—			
C. S. Press and Lunch Room	514		
High Ind. Single—L. Segalla	146		
High Ind. Triple—J. Lipa	362		

**No Days Absent**

(Continued from page 1)  
that all of the men in Formation maintained good records with very few days of absenteeism on the part of anyone.

Doubtless, there are other Departments equally proud of their attendance records... and many individuals, who over the course of years, have maintained high averages. However, too many of us have records showing an excessive amount of absenteeism, which, if we had realized, might have been cut down considerably. Multiply those unnecessary days lost by a day's pay, and we see what a tidy sum it amounts to — which we never got! But the Formation boys did — so can you — try it this year!

**Brown Street Briefs****Prokar Testing**

By Betty Jangrow

Introducing Members of the Testing Table:

Mary Mahoney—who flashes a beautiful diamond.

"Willy" Belanger—the girl with all the pep.

Irene Konopka—who always enjoys our jokes.

Alice Monette and Helen Noetzel—who help to solve our problems. Edith Roy—an "old timer" at Spragues and a wonderful sport.

Viola Savage—who knows just how to hold a camp.

Helen Foote and Yours Truly—who wonder if '48 will prove as adventurous as '47.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

**PAA. Waxing**

By R. Samia and Mary Bua

We're glad to welcome: "Rusty" St. Pierre, Olive Bourdon, Lorraine Baker and Betty Romeo who are quite an asset to our line. It is swell having you with us.

By a strange coincidence, both "Rusty" St. Pierre and Olive Bourdon came from the same part of New Hampshire and meet in our little corner. What a small world!

For jitterbug lessons, contact "Tootie" Goodermote. She is really good, and puts the others to shame.

For Baking attention, have Lorraine Baker whistle for you. She is good!

**New Arrivals**

A daughter was born December 27 to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wotkowicz. The mother is the former Lottie Wysocki of the D.T.Q. Department.

A son, Vernon Paul, was an after Christmas present to Mr. and Mrs. Alcide Decoteau. The mother is Ida, of Misc. Paper Assembly Department.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Cross are the parents of a son born December 28. The mother is the former Ruby Phelps of the PAA Rolling Department.

**THANK YOU NOTE**

We wish to express, through the medium of the LOG, our sincere appreciation and thanks to all the employees of the Sprague Electric who have so generously remembered us in our recent loss by fire.

—Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cullen and Family

**Maintenance**

By Little Lulu

I think I'll start the New Year right, folks, by NOT making any resolutions, 'cause I know I'd break 'em!

They tell me John Rossi received another ski outfit for Christmas (sold the one he received last year dirt cheap after his first try at Dutch Hill). Looks as tho' someone were trying to get rid of you, "Smiler." That old saying: If you don't succeed the first time, try again... they're still trying!

When Charlie Dean's son is busy and can't get around to delivering his papers, Pop takes over so White Oakers, Williamstown, can expect their papers any time between 8 and 9 P.M. Pop Dean has to read his paper, eat dinner and have a nap, first. Any time, Charlie, any time.

Al (Playboy) Cardinal lived up to his name the day before Christmas. He says playing around with electricity brings out the cave man in him.

Tony Woloski was M.C. at the Eagles Hall recently — at his own request. He didn't like the way things were going, so took over... but not for long.

Heard on the speaker recently: Testing, OK on 4...OK on 4.... Yeah, OK on 4... Station W K O B is looking for a voice with oomph, Ray Shieids.

Wash (Lover) Santelli is still waiting for his tenant to vacate, so he can tie the knot. (Get on the ball, Lover, as Rossi wants to make it a double wedding.)

Charlie Wright, a former co-worker who has lived in Alaska the past two years, visited us recently before returning. I can't speak for anyone else, but all I can say is: Alaska, here I come!

**Industrial Oil**

By Ann Heath

Well folks, the holidays are over — and it has been a very good year for us at Sprague Electric... and here's hoping for bigger and better things for the year ahead. The best of luck to each and every one.

Though Bob Rydholm was on vacation during Christmas week, he just had to pay us a visit... Did you miss us that much, Bob?... Or was it just force of habit?

Elizabeth Maynard is back from her vacation — we're glad to see her. Speedy recovery to Winnie Emery — we hope she'll be with us soon.

Nancy Barschdorff is not getting fat — those bumps are just bowling balls she carries with her!

Whenever Miles Heath appears at the alleys, our Lena bowls like mad (in the gutters, I mean).

Leona Dufrane has that far-away look since the snow fell... is she thinking of the sunny South?

Eleanor DeSanty had a busy time Christmas — busy becoming an aunt and watching for Santa at the same time.

**MAKES DEBUT ON W M N B**

William Sheldon, a former Sprague employee made his debut over the air for station W M N B on January 11, from 4 to 4:30. Congratulations, Bill!



Dot Gageant with her infant daughter Cynthia Anne. Cynthia was just 13 days old when she consented to pose with her mummy for this picture.

**Molded Tubulars--2nd Shift**

By Gladys Kirkpatrick

We wish to thank Harry Fletcher for the cake and other donations for our Christmas party. It was very thoughtful of him. After our delicious lunch, the party went in two groups to the Midway and Morrisseys, and continued festivities.

Ruth Richmond at last count had 245,000 match covers in her collection! What an interesting hobby for one to have. She is a skiing enthusiast, too, and had reservations at the Jug and Barn at South Egremont, Mass., for the New Year week end. Happy skiing, Ruth!

How young and light hearted is our "Nell". She is still sticking to her diet — more power to you, Nellie Mancini. By the way, who was the lucky girl who ate your banana? My, my!

Anna St. Cyr is enjoying a two weeks' vacation... and back from vacations are Preziosa Solari and Jennie Romeo.

Peggy Smith spent her Christmas vacation with her mother in Boston, Mass.

Eleanor Underwood was in Boston over the week end, visiting her husband in a hospital. We wish him a speedy recovery, Eleanor.

Betty Folino has been practising walking up stairs as quietly as her kitten. When the cat did fall down stairs, her husband rushed out, thinking he would find Betty. My, my, what stories!

Rita Pedrin, Alma Fox, and Al Ziter were pleasantly surprised with gifts at Christmas.

**Prokar Dept.**

By Carol Bellard

Those needing to rent a room during the skiing season, contact Gert Fields of St. Johnsbury, Vt.

It is rumored that Gert Fields and Marion Dupree were in a "breaking" mood the other morning.

Helen Foote certainly was a happy girl when she received a fur coat for Christmas.

It was noticed that Mary Mahoney smoked her cig with her left hand (engagement hand), - - - congrats and best wishes, Mary.

Gert Fields was pretty surprised when she came in to find a cane cane on her machine....she needs one now.

We hope Carol enjoyed her birthday cake and gift, and hope you go many more years before using a cane!

**I. O. Cover Assembly**

By Buckles and Georgimae

We welcome five new persons to our Department — hope you enjoy your stay here.

Ernie Faustini and Romeo Brusatori remind one of the "Charles Atlas" ads — with Romeo before — and Ernie after.

Mary Santelli is on the Sprague Basketball team. They say she doesn't have to know how to play....What do they mean?

Everyone seems sad, now that Christmas is over and they won't be able to hear "Buckles" sing "Santa Claus is Coming to Town". Cheer up, she's learned another song.

BEWARE! Leap Year is upon us — and our single boys better watch out!

**PAA. Rolling**

By Rita and Mary

Here's hoping that Santa was generous with everyone this year....of course, Helen Slater didn't find the bicycle she asked for....perhaps it is because she didn't state how many wheels she wanted on that bike—two or three!

Ruth Edmonds spent a two-week vacation at home just before the holidays.

We're glad to know that Marion Andrews' young daughter is making a quick recovery.

Viola McClelland spent a week's vacation at home during the holidays.

Congratulations to the husbands of Marion Andrews and Gladys Rohane, who were recently elected to the City Council.

Peggy Maynard has that "new look", with her becoming new hair-do.

**COLDS**

Tips on how to prevent colds:

1. Wear warm clothing, but don't "bundle".
2. Keep the air at home about 72°.
3. Keep your hands clean and away from your face.
4. Eat enough vegetables, milk, eggs, and fruit. Avoid constipation.
5. Drink at least eight glasses of water each day.
6. Keep away from crowds, and get enough exercise.
7. Go to bed and call a doctor if you have a fever.

**Resistor--Night Shift**

By Vickie LaMore

Margaret Pederine has returned after a week's vacation.

Yours Truly is enjoying a two weeks' vacation.

A surprise farewell party was given Dot Belding and Alice Dupuis during our supper hour. Both received appropriate gifts.

Betty Fletcher wishes to thank the girls for the many gifts she received when she came home from the Pittsfield hospital.

Officer Caron (husband of Aldea) must be a fast worker—he always gets his man, according to the Transcript's accounts. We need more like him.

Jane Martin asks: What excuse will Sally Harrington use for coming in late, now that the Christmas shopping is over?

We like the way Gerry Gillis looks when she comes in dressed to attend a dance.



Harrantrant - Garratt -- Miss Esther Garratt became the bride of Edwin Harrantrant of Norwich, Conn. in a ceremony in St. Stephen's Episcopal church, Pittsfield on January 4. Esther has been employed as Secretary to Mr. George B. Flood.

**Wire Coating**

By Corena Tatro

We of Wire Coating have to admit that our hunters are sharp... Ralph Blood tells us he has killed a bear (or should we say, another bear) ... If Ralph appears with a new fur coat, we will know.

Carl Hurley is modeling a new jacket... a Christmas present, perhaps.

Glad to learn Al Peck's wife is feeling better... Al tells us she had a bad fall.

Earle Washburn says if there is anything he likes, it's snow. It's nice to know, the first thing in the morning, you have to shovel a path, and the last thing before retiring, you can again shovel the walk. Cheer up, now with Christmas over, it will soon be spring and no more shoveling (we hope!).



Tony Abuisi, Francis Abuisi and Peter Abuisi, nephews of Lucy; Teddy Stasiowski, nephew of Josephine Lamarrre of Molded Tubulars; Mary Jane Daniels, daughter of Frank of Maintenance; and Rosalie, daughter of Eleanor Perron of Prokar -- all wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

**Upper Offices****By "Do" and "Flo"**

Better late than never — so goes the saying, so: Congratulations to Ralph Boisjolie on the birth of a new baby boy.

*Odds and Ends in the Office:*

Question of the Week: Who goes walking for a mile or so, the middle of December, before she discovers she's wearing bed slippers? Do you know, Sue Bishop?

Do you think those new spark plugs will help old Maggie out, Harold Stevens? (Incidentally, Maggie is Harold's car).

Finally, Helen Root had the opportunity to stay home five nights in a row . . . A nice way to end the old year, Helen.

Well well, our Christmas party is over . . . but didn't we have a marvelous time! The service at Williams Inn was grand — not mentioning the food. We also had a grab bag, and enjoyed group singing after dinner . . . We would also like to take this opportunity to thank R. C. Sprague Jr. for his contribution to the success of our party. We appreciate it very much.

**Engineering Specs****By H. Goodale and D. Mancuso**

Now that the Christmas knitting factory closed down for another year, a fine lot of sweaters, socks and mittens have made their appearance. No doubt the checker tournaments will be resumed . . . How about it, Dot?

About a dozen merry-makers, including friends and former co-workers, gathered at Heartwellyville Lodge, December 17, for a round of delicious steak dinners and a good time. Ask Rita Slade who won the bubble gum contest and Jane Zabek about the runner-up. No booby prize was awarded, as too many winners were in that class.

On December 18, another party was held at Morrissey's, where dinner was served, with a grab bag following and movies were enjoyed by all.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Mason are now comfortably settled in their East Main Street apartment. Best wishes to both of you for the New Year. We still have pleasant memories of the good time we enjoyed at your wedding reception.

Millie Forgea is the lucky girl to win that cordé bag . . . we would all like to have had it.

**Misc. Paper Finish****By Gert Hall**

Here's greeting you in the first issue of the Log for the New Year . . . and before we proceed, let's look back a little ways . . .

It's fitting to give the I.C.W. No. 2 a rousing hand for their splendid children's party . . . a difficult job and well done.

Our room had a very lovely luncheon on December 23. The foreman and supervisor were presented gifts from their gangs. Each person received a grab bag gift and the tables looked very lovely under the direction of Frances Solari, Annis O'Neil and Maud Waska. We ate 'til we thought we would bust — and picked on the leftovers!

Our deep sympathy to Helen Harrington whose holiday was saddened by the death of her father the day before Christmas.

We bid farewell to Cassie Gliwski — and say welcome to our new supervisor, Frank Major.

**All 'Round Athlete**

**Ruth Richmond of the Molded Tubulars** is a versatile young lady. Here she is after taking a flying lesson. She now has 36 flying hours to her credit.

Ruth Richmond, who came to work for the Molded Tubular Department last September, is an all round athlete. She was Sports Director for her school while attending Rhode Island State, and won a scholarship in sports activities at school. She helped her team pile up many high scores for a victorious softball season — and in bowling, she had the distinction of having the highest individual single for that season, 124. Ruth also played with a semi-professional basketball team.

After finishing school, Ruth worked for the United Airlines in Boston, in the accounting and finance department, and only returned home to Williamstown because her family needed her there. Ruth hopes to go back to the United Airlines some time in the future . . . She says there is a certain fascination in work connected with air. In the meantime she is having fun taking flying lessons, and to the best of our knowledge, is the only Sprague girl who is flying. (If there are others, please bring it to the attention of the Log Desk.) . . . Our Girls' Bowling Team think it is a shame that Ruth works a second shift, because she certainly would be an asset to the Girls' Team!

—Gladys Kirkpatrick

**Antoinette van Zelm**

The employees of the Sprague Electric Company extend sincere sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Sprague Sr., and Mr. R. C. Sprague Jr. on the death of Mrs. Antoinette Hyatt van Zelm who passed away December 23, 1947, at Scarsdale, N. Y. Mrs. van Zelm is the mother of Mrs. R. C. Sprague Sr.

**Helps in Community Sing**

Our Ellen Horsfall of Methods and Time Study Department led the singing for the neighborhood community sing on Christmas eve, on Wall Street. There was quite a gathering of neighbors for this project, and Ellen's voice added much to the occasion.

**Dry Tubular Finish**

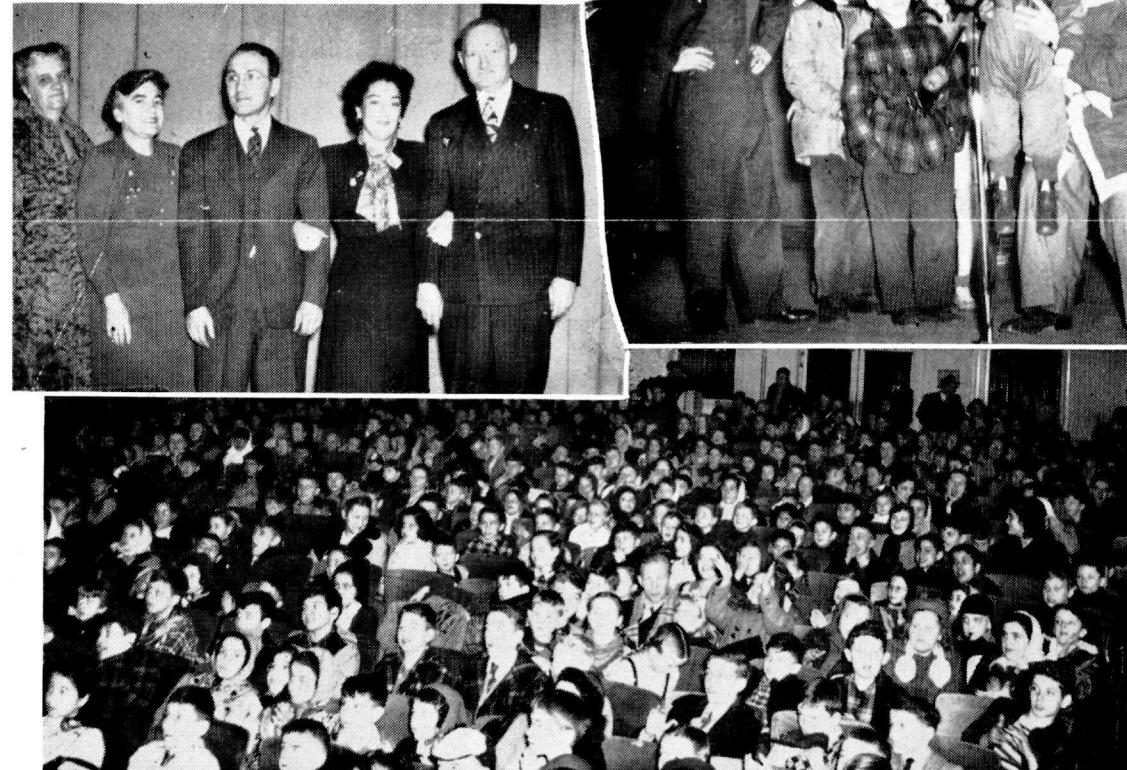
By M. Hauptfleisch and M. Clifton

Pearl Walden has returned to work after a two weeks' vacation at home. Leonore Tarnuzzer spent the Christmas holiday with relatives in Springfield.

Our lucky girl, Isabel Hyndman, won a five-dollar bill in a drawing, recently.

Patricia Roy received a lovely diamond for Christmas. Good luck, Pat . . . and he is a lucky guy!

Just why did the girls of Leo Lemoine's department present him with a pretty flowered apron for Christmas?

**AT CHRISTMAS PARTY**

When I.C.W. No. 2 entertained Sprague employee children at a Christmas party, everybody had a wonderful time. Above, "Santa" assists a young guest to talk into the Mike, while Chairman Richardello looks on. Second: The Committee who made the party such a success were Anna Downey, Maud Waska, Nick Richardello, Jennie Gelineau, and John Walsh; and last: view of Drury Auditorium where 1200 children were the guests.

**The Party Was a Huge Success . . .**

And by a huge success — we mean just that. The Committee in charge of the I.C.W. No. 2 Children's Christmas Party had planned — and expected some 800 kiddies to attend their party at Drury High School auditorium, December 20th. That number grew to approximately 1200! And did the kiddies have fun, what with three Santa's helpers being present, and loads of candy and gifts for every child. The Committee, Anna Downey, Maud Waska, Nick Richardello, Jennie Gelineau and John Walsh, wish to thank all who helped with the party in any way. They mention especially, the help of the Police and Fire Departments; the service rendered by Theresa Worthington, Henry Arbour, Ernie Purpura and Ray Calvi; the music furnished by Mr. James Chambers; and the aid of Ray Bissaillon in

running the movies; in addition to the previous acknowledgment appearing in the December issue of the Log.

**Come on, Smile!**

Small fry of the family, answering front door bell: "Well, if it isn't pages 50 to 57 in Sis's diary."

1st Drunk: "Say, know what time it is?"

2nd Drunk: "Yeah."

1st Drunk: "Thanksh."

"Do you believe in clubs for women?"

"Yes, if kindness fails."

"Professor, what should a woman take when she is run down?"

"The license number, madame, the license number."

**Formation Dept.****by Bogus and Shea**

When Jim Shea and Joe Pevoski went rabbit hunting, they didn't return home until 10 P.M. . . . Did they expect to find a rabbit on Main Street?

Those wishing to purchase shells, get in touch with "Pat" Bemis — he has some for \$10 dollars apiece.

Jim Shea saved a hundred dollars this year by going deer hunting with "Babe" Gilbert . . . last year, it cost him just one hundred dollars . . . so we bet Jim had a better Christmas this year.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. George Perris on the arrival of their baby girl.

**Misc. Paper Assembly****By Ruth Haskins**

Best of luck to Frank Major who is leaving us . . . and a very warm welcome to Lloyd Bullet, our new foreman.

We also have a new supervisor, Al Pierce. Hope you like it here, Al!

Two former members of the gang are back, and it's nice having you here, Laura Crews and Julia Davis.

Everyone had a Merry Christmas, though we had no planned party this year. We omitted our grab bag in favor of a Sunshine basket for Ann Palmer who is recovering from a serious illness.

Mae Wright is also on the sick list . . . Speedy recovery, Mae.

Santa was a day late for Ida Decoteau . . . but she doesn't mind, for he brought her a baby son at St. Luke's hospital on December 26.

Nellie Sprague's two grandchildren, Kenneth and Connie Sprague, sang at the Christmas party given by our Union.

**Dry Rolling****By L. Kolis and M. Critella**

If you have trouble with your scotch tape, try Elsie Smith's solution . . . sit on it!

**Congratulations In Order**

Orchids go to our basketball team on their victory over Charlemont. The result of their first encounter was 30-14 in their favor . . . to say nothing of being a terrific night to drive over the Trail to make this victory — raining and snowing and blowing. The only mishap was that Kay Darling came to work the following day with a slight limp . . . Keep up the good work, girls.

What, no engagements this Christmas? Never mind, since this is Leap Year a lot of our single girls should do something about it.

"Pat" Boucher was mighty surprised the morning she woke up to find the Fire Department just leaving her home!

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Smith spent the Christmas holidays in Boston with relatives and enjoyed a wonderful vacation.

**F. P. Assembly****By Emma Massaconi****Christmas Party**

A very merry time was had by all at our Christmas party, and we received many lovely gifts. Catherine Coody, don't you know Grace is afraid of crocodiles? (Aren't we all?)

While spending a week end in New York, Ruth Peterhansel saw the "Oklahoma" play and attended the Ice Follies.

This Department wishes everyone a happy and prosperous New Year.

**OUR SAFETY CORNER**

A guy who leaves guards off of gears  
Hasn't much between the ears!